

Panajotis Kondylis

**DIE NEUZEITLICHE
METAPHYSIKKRITIK**

- Klett-Cotta –

Panagiotis Kondylis

**THE CRITIQUE OF NEW-
TIMES METAPHYSICS**

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BARBARIAN IDIOM BARBARIAN IDIOT

ΠΑΝΑΓΙΩΤΗΣ ΚΟΝΔΥΛΗΣ

Η ΚΡΙΤΙΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΜΕΤΑΦΥΣΙΚΗΣ ΣΤΗ ΝΕΟΤΕΡΗ ΣΚΕΨΗ

ΟΛΟΚΛΗΡΩΜΕΝΗ ΕΚΔΟΣΗ

ΤΟΜΟΣ Α΄

ἀπὸ τὸν ὄψιμο Μεσαίωνα

ὥς τὸ τέλος τοῦ Διαφωτισμοῦ

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΑΚΕΣ ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ · ΦΙΛΟΣΟΦΙΚΗ ΒΙΒΛΙΟΘΗΚΗ

2012 (ΠΡΩΤΗ ΕΚΔΟΣΙΣ (I – III) : 1983 (ΓΝΩΣΗ))

PANAGIOTIS KONDYLLIS

THE CRITIQUE OF METAPHYSICS IN (MORE) MODERN THOUGHT

COMPLETE EDITION [[IN TWO VOLUMES]]

VOLUME A

from the late Middle Ages

to the end of the Enlightenment

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2012 (I – IV) (FIRST EDITION (I – III) : 1983 (GNOSI / GNOSE, ATHENS))

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IDIOM BY THE KRAZY MAN BARBARIAN IDIOT

My friend Dr. F. Horst read the manuscript and made worthwhile, valuable suggestions for / regarding the shaping, moulding, formation of the text. He has for years supported my work with his advice and in deed, practice, and for this reason I would like to express my gratitude to him.

Panagiotis Kondylisⁱ

PUBLISHER’S NOTEⁱⁱ

Panagiotis Kondylis first published the *Critique of metaphysics in (more) modern thought* in 1983 [[in Greek]], in the “Philosophical and Political Library” by (editions) Gnosi / Gnose (publishers), which (“Philosophical and Political Library”) he directed. This volume covered the period from the late Middle Ages until the end of the Enlightenment. In 1990, the German-language version of the book was published by the publishing house Klett-Cotta, which included an additional 4th part, with its object being the course of the critique of metaphysics during the 19th and 20th century. With the exception of this 4th part (which is fully, entirely, completely absent from the first Greek edition [[of 1983]]), the German edition essentially follows word for word (hot on the trail / in hot pursuit of) the Greek edition.

The complete Greek edition which we present here is separated into two volumes. In the first (such volume), the Greek edition of 1983 is republished, reprinted (without intervention(s), apart from the/a new pagination, the correction of certain oversights and the translation of the foreign-language – mainly Latin – terms appearing), which corresponds with/to the 3 first parts of the German edition. The new edition is complemented/supplemented with an analytical index of concepts.

In the Greek translation of the 4th partⁱⁱⁱ, the attempt is made to follow the terminological, stylistic and (apart from a minimal number of exceptions of

lesser, very slight significance, importance) grammatical-syntactical choices, selections of Kondylis himself, so that the linguistic unity between the two volumes is safeguarded as far as possible, but also the wider, broader coherence with the overall, total Greek-language work of the author, which, besides its in itself / inherent philosophical value, constitutes a supreme, paramount, tip-top, peak contribution to the cultivation of (more, contemporaneous) modern Greek philosophical language.

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Introduction

During the past one hundred years there have already been some attempts to write the history of metaphysics, which, of course, cannot be characterised as complete or otherwise flawless, faultless, impeccable, perfect, irreproachable, unobjectionable¹. However, hitherto no history of the critique of metaphysics has been propounded, submitted, presented, put forward, written, although this

¹ The first histories of metaphysics are written, not by chance, at/in a time (an epoch) in which the rise/development of the natural sciences and the humanities (sciences of the spirit), as well as the spreading of a scientist(ic)-positivist(ic) spirit(-intellect) gave / begot, gave birth to, generated the impression that metaphysics conclusively, irrevocably belonged to the past; thus, these histories have the character of a farewell / fare-thee-well review of a cycle of ideas, which appears to have closed forever [[as P.K. showed in many of his works, there's no such thing/closure; ideological-metaphysical thought is always present in all societies, and it can never be otherwise given that all value-axiological and aesthetical positionings are human constructs and that values, normative action etc. are absolutely unavoidable]]. Dilthey, who was no positivist, but like some others had seen through the consequences of the rise of the sciences for the orientation of new-times intellectual-spiritual life, was the first to set out to tell / sketch out / draft / plan a history of metaphysics, which would simultaneously be a structural analysis and a typology of the same metaphysics (GS, I; cf. ch. IV, sec. 4 d, below) (/ Dilthey, who he too, albeit alien to positivism, considers as the decisive feature of the New Times the autonomous development of various physical and social sciences, evaluates, appraises metaphysics as a passing, transient, transitory phenomenon inside the historically given system of the intellectual-spiritual forms of life; if myth and religion were preceded by metaphysics, contemporary special(ised) sciences succeed it, breaking up, abolishing, catalysing the cognitive unity of medieval theological metaphysics; metaphysics is broken up, fragmented itself into a multitude of contradictory systems and dies, not being able to demonstrate its fundamental hypothesis, that is, the logical systematic unity of everything; its (metaphysics') fusion, amalgamation, merging with the theory of knowledge constitutes a form of euthanasia (Einleitung, esp. 133, 357/9, 405) [Full/Complete bibliographical elements/details of the works referred to and of their available Greek translations are listed / put forward in the Table which is found at the end of the second volume ([[Greek]] publisher's note [[in relation to the 2012 Greek edition]]]]. Not very productive, fertile, profitable, on the contrary, is E. v. Hartmann's somewhat later work, which basically contains barely coherent summaries of philosophical systems and lacks insight into the broader outlines / great lines of the development as well as in the structural meaning, significance of their turning points (/ Under the impression of the rise of the positive sciences does E. v. Hartmann write a few years later his own history of metaphysics, which, however, constitutes a thorough report, essay (in respect) of philosophical systems with a relatively loose, slack coherence and with very few important, significant general observations regarding the great lines of development/evolution); the reference to the spirit of the times is at least established by the thesis that from now on metaphysics may only methodically proceed inductively (/ Hartmann announces the end of traditional metaphysics by saying that from now on metaphysics can solely be an inductive a posteriori science) (Geschichte, II, 594; cf. ch. IV, sec. 2 and 3, below). – Conversely, On the other hand, Heimsoeth's work came into being at a point in time when one / people wanted to confront the spirit of science and help metaphysics gain new strength and validity (/ comes from the reaction against positivism as it manifested itself particularly after the first world war in the efforts, endeavours for the revival, resuscitation, rejuvenation of a metaphysics in the traditional sense). Accordingly, the author does not want to quite accept (/ consciously pushes aside) the meaning, significance and consequences of the fact of new-times science (/ of the development of the positive sciences in the New Times), and he strives, endeavours to refute, confute, disprove, falsify, prove wrong, doubt, call into question the supposedly, ostensibly, allegedly shallow Enlightenment perception (/ conviction of the Enlightenment) that the New Times would have / had stood up (object) to (oppose) the Middle Ages and freed man, humans (/ mean the freeing, liberation of man) from the fetters, bonds of religion and metaphysics; the unity of the New Times and the Middle Ages is shown, seen, demonstrated in accordance with his opinion(, in his opinion,) in the unity of metaphysical questions (problem examination), which in turn are/is religiously moulded, stamped, minted, influenced, (/ has a religious character) etc. (Die sechs großen Themen, esp. 11 ff.). The book constitutes in reality a rhetorical treatise, tract, especially in its one-sided perspective pertaining to philosophy as a calling / occupation / professional philosophy, hardly perceiving the dynamics of other currents and forces in the history of ideas (/ Even though the book became quite widespread, nevertheless it constitutes an intensely rhetorical treatise which subjugates, subordinates, subjects historical development, evolution to the preliminary / in advance metaphysical and world-theoretical preferences of a professional of philosophy who is minimally (only slightly) familiar with the more general history of ideas). We can similarly talk (/ The same can be observed) about Schulz's treatise, which wants to just as little accept that the New Times brought about a radical break (change), upheaval / about-turn, or else, that it placed, put, set men / humans in the place of (man / humans displaced) God, although he admits the essential, substantial, substantive change, transformation of the Christian perception of God (Der Gott, esp. 11 ff., 55). Regarding / Concerning newer, (more) recent attempts to structurally, and at the same time in regard to its overall historical development/evolution, apprehend the metaphysical phenomenon with sociological and anthropological means, see ch. IV, sec. 4 c (esp. regarding Topitsch) (/ The most significant, important post-war general outlining of the metaphysical phenomenon is undoubtedly that of Topitsch. On the basis of findings and methods of the sociology of knowledge, of mass and individual psychology, of ethnography / the study of peoples etc., the author

critique (criticism) represents and constitutes (a) neuralgic, i.e. critical, crucial point / themes, topics of (new-times) (the) spiritual-intellectual life (of the New Times). This gap can be easily explained, if one ponders, contemplates, considers that the most distinguished, significant, important modern opponents of metaphysics belong to the so-called analytical tendency, school of thought, direction in philosophy (/ come from the womb / bosom of so-called analytical philosophy) and hence precisely / that is precisely why they are not distinguished by / do not stand out for the intensity of their interests pertaining to the history of philosophy, whereas, conversely, the direct or indirect heirs, inheritors and successors, continuers of traditional metaphysical thought / thinking have recourse to the history of philosophy in apologetic or eclectic rather than with critical intent. The fact is that *there is* a history of the critique of metaphysics – and indeed not in the sense of an asymmetrical row, series of incoherent and scattered, dissipated epochal attacks against the various versions of metaphysical thought, but rather in the organic sense of temporal succession or of the parallel use of fundamental anti-metaphysical theses, which can be apprehended, assembled retrospectively as a multi-dimensional whole, although every one of them came into being or gained ground only under particular conditions pertaining to the history of ideas. From that it is illuminated / elucidated / arises that a history of the critique of metaphysics taken seriously may not remain fixed to a doxographical one / (such) history. Just as a history of metaphysics, which would deserve / be worthy of the name, should proceed, progress, continue to a typology with (a) systematic claim(s), so too a history of metaphysics is faced with the task, job, duty, mission / obliged, obligated, - through / by means of arriving at the fundamental, basic types through / via / by the study of anti-metaphysical arguments in their conceptual and historical concreteness-, of making (to make) possible, enabling (enable) the logical

interprets the metaphysical construct(ion)s as secular / cosmic projections of human situations, both of biological data as well as of data related/relating to technical and social organisation (Vom Ursprung, 9/11)).

structuring of the material and at the same time an (/ by studying the multiformity of the anti-metaphysical arguments in their specific, concrete manifestation on each and every respective occasion, to deduce, derive from inside of the many-sidedness of the material, those basic types, which allow, permit not only the logical structuring of this material, but the) all-sided contradistinction of metaphysical and anti-metaphysical thought.

An (inadequate, insufficient) history of metaphysics could be perhaps imagined, which would be oriented towards the main perceptions of the being, nature, general character of metaphysics itself, or else, more specifically, towards its triple / threefold Aristotelian definition; then it would be investigated, researched when metaphysics would be looked at / considered and treated / handled principally, mainly as theology, when as ontology and when as the theory / teaching / doctrine of principles (i.e. of the most general principles and causes)². Such a method(olog)ical approach would, nevertheless, not be particularly fruitful, fertile, fecund for a history of the critique of metaphysics, which can touch upon the problem of the definition of metaphysics only to the extent that this appears necessary for its own ends, goals, purposes.

Notwithstanding that, the absence, lack of a(n) (unambiguous and) generally binding definition of metaphysics (with only one (sole) meaning) not in the least signifies, means that the development, evolution of anti-metaphysical ideas cannot be tracked, pursued with the help of certain conceptual-structural criteria, which formalise / give typical form to the plethora of the historical material (stuff) and simultaneously can make the great turning points in the course of the critique of metaphysics (more) comprehensible (in an elegant and

² Since a solution to this question, problem is not essential, indispensable / is not of direct interest as regards our context / in the context of this work, I shall only refer to some important publications, in which the various views on this question / problem are represented: Ando, *Metaphysics*, 8 ff.; Lotz, *Ontologie und Metaphysik*, 4 ff.; Vollrath, *Gliederung*, 271 ff.; Moser, *Metaphysik*, 1 ff.; Zimmermann, *Ontologie oder Metaphysik?*, 101 ff.; Wagner, *Zum Problem*, esp. 141 ff.; Patzig, *Theologie*, esp. 190 f., 202 ff.; Mansion, *Philosophie première*, esp. 177 ff..

clear fashion). The question / problem is posed / posited / set / put as follows: which features (characteristics, traits, attributes) of the being, nature, (general) character of metaphysics are of immediate, direct significance, meaning for the history of the critique of metaphysics?

The answer to this question, problem must highlight, emphasise, point out two aspects (/ In an aphoristic form / the form of an aphorism, the answer is the following). Every metaphysics rests and is based on the distinction between the transcendental and the immanent, or else, between the supra/hyper-empirical On That Side / Over There / Thence / Beyond / Hereafter / Next World and the empirical On This Side / Over Here / Hence / Within / Here(in) / This World, (whilst) understanding, considering the former (On That Side) as the “true” unadulterated (pristine, unspoilt, genuine) reality and at the same time (at least in its great traditional forms, versions) as the source of ethical-normative principles^{iv}. As, in fact, Aristotle writes with classical conciseness, succinctness, pithiness, terseness, if there were no substance outside of those substances which we encounter in empirical(ly given) nature, so/thus physics would be the only science; the precedence, priority, primacy, in fact, the necessity and the existence of metaphysics itself is based, founded in/on (/ is secured by) the conviction that there is an unchangeable, immutable substance on that side / beyond and above nature³. The hierarchy of being founds, consequently, the hierarchy of the levels of knowledge, and the term “metaphysics” aptly, tellingly reflects / accurately renders this double hierarchy⁴. As a / the *form* of knowledge (/ cognitive form), i.e. as a / the system of propositions, which on the basis of

³ Metaphysik, 1526 a 10-23.

⁴ Reiner has compellingly, convincingly shown that the term “metaphysics”, which, as is known, does not come / prop up, appear in Aristotle himself, was created not for mere biblionomic (i.e. as regards the classification of books) reasons by Andronicus of Rhodes [[1st century B.C.]], as dominant / the ruling (/ the generally accepted) tradition (particularly from the 19th century) wants it; rather, it came into being / was born already in the circles of the older Peripatetic philosophers, and indeed in connection with a certain didactic arrangement of the philosophical disciplines (/ didactic series of philosophical lessons), which go back to (/ was instituted, established, founded, enacted by) Aristotle and corresponded with (was/is relevant to) the content, that is, the ontological hierarchy of Aristotelian philosophy (Die Entstehung, esp. 228 ff.).

logical rules are connected with (/ tied to) one another, and irrespective of its each and every respective content or else irrespective of its each and every respective definition of the Transcendent and the Immanent, metaphysics strives after / seeks / pursues the rational-demonstrative apprehension of being and its ultimate, final principles^v. From this point of view, the composition, texture, constitution of (the actually) being does not principally, mainly, chiefly come into play (/ have (carry, possess) importance, gravitas, weight), but rather (of interest is) the fact that the human intellect in its highest and most intensive endeavour(s), effort(s) apprehends (and expresses) being and can bring it into (in) a system of propositions free of contradiction(s). Consequently, metaphysics appears as tangible, (f)actual proof of the omnipotence of Reason.

In order to be able to comprehend the escalation (gradation) and the phases of the new-times critique of metaphysics, we must hold onto the fact / point out that both aforementioned features of metaphysical constructs (i.e. the distinction between (the) Transcendental (Over There) and (the) Immanent (Over Here) as well as the demand for a rationally complete / total, full knowledge of (the actually) being) do not either logically or historically belong together, although / even though they are interwoven in some of the / many an important metaphysical system(s) of philosophical tradition.

**THE FOOTNOTES ARE P.K.'s UNLESS INDICATED BY [!!!],
WHEREAS THE END NOTES CONSTITUTE KRAZY MAN STUFF**

ⁱ German edition only.

ⁱⁱ 2012 Greek edition only.

ⁱⁱⁱ The first 3 parts of the Greek edition were written by P.K., whereas the 4th part of the Greek edition is a translation of the German part 4 by Μιχάλης Παπανικολάου / Michael Papanikolaou.

^{iv} The TOTAL FILTH OF THE ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-SHIT-SKATA-EXCREMENT-FAECES-MONKEY-PITHIKOS FREAK SHOW LUNA PARK LOONY BIN MENTALLY RETARDED KOST which is mandated by law !!! as to its number !!! without any !!! investigation allowed of the number !!! and or of the gas !!! etc. !!!, whilst everyone else's number and gas etc. can be investigated and questioned !!!, along with ZIO-USA-promoted "human rights", which are totally non-existent !!! and have never existed !!! is just the secular / non-traditional religious ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-ideological form of ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-ANTI-CHRIST-SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN-EVIL-DEVIL-GREAT SATAN rule via ZIO-USA-INTERNATIONAL ZOROS! JOOZ-KIKES-YIDZ (SATANIK SERKOOS MONKEY) et al. in "the West" post-ZIO-WW2, supporting ZIO-NEO-NAZI-IZIM in ZIO-JOO-KRANE in our times incl. via ZIO-JOO-ROPA-CHANNEL !!! To the extent that the MAGA-Trump et al. faction can break ZIO-USA away from all the ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-"master race, rool da world" ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-BULL-CRAP-SHIT, then that'll also mean a recalibrating of ZIO-USA values, ideology and practice/praxis. And all the ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-BULL-SHIT about "anti-Satanism" means that the ANTI-CHRIST, GREAT SATAN, EVIL-DEVIL SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID AND ZIO-JOO-KIKE-YID-ZOMBEE-STOOGUE Satanists are in power, for Christians in power would only ever care about anti-Christianity, and definitely not "anti-Satanism".

^v All humans act normatively constructing meaning, which is understood in relation to values, which are also constructs. There are no inherent normative values and principles in nature.